



THE MESSENGER

The weekly review of the Parish of

St Michael and All Angels

Watford

MOTHERING SUNDAY
31 March 2019

We wish you a warm welcome to our services today on Mothering Sunday. At the 9.30 am Service Fr Geoff celebrates. There will be an All-Age Presentation by the children and a distribution of posies.

We are using the "First Sunday" service booklet.

Hymns: 253, 238, 308 and 530

Coffee, tea and simnel cake will be served in church after the service and there will be a Bring-&-Buy Sale – please stay on.

Evening Prayer at 6.00 pm.

For your prayers this week:

The Church: The work of the Mother's Union across the world.
The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, James Richard Wong Sin Yong its Bishop and all its people.
The Church of South India's Green Schools programme.

The World: Help for people who need parenting skills.
Christian Aid's help for women bearing children in Sierra Leone.
Emergency help for people in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe affected by Cyclone Idai.

The Community and Parish: The mothers and children of our church family.
Families coming together at this time.
Help for families in difficulties.

The Ill and the Housebound: Especially Christopher Bilson, Juliette Cottam, Marion Craddock-Jones, Audrey Dixon, Cynthia Dixon, Claire Dunning, Fr Robert Featherstone, Jemima Hill, Peter Hinchey, Mary Kearns, Lesley Kinch, Loretta Lynch, Craig McKay, Lisa Mills, Sylvia Obeng, Dorcas Ochola, Martin Ranson, Christina Simon, Mark Simon, Malcolm Talbot, Baby Adelaide Tonkin, Peter White; and all who care for them.

The Departed:

MOTHERING SUNDAY

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

READING Colossians 3: 12-17 (Good News Bible)

You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you.

And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity.

The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful.

Christ's message in all its richness must live in your hearts. Teach and instruct one another with all wisdom. Sing psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing to God with thanksgiving in your hearts.

Everything you do or say, then, should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, as you give thanks through him to God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord

GOSPEL John 19.25b–27

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

- ²⁵ Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'
- ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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MAUNDY THURSDAY - 18 APRIL 2019

8 pm Eucharist of the Lord's Supper with foot washing
and stripping of the altar

followed by

MAUNDY THURSDAY WATCH

If you are able to take part for an hour or more at the Maundy Watch on 18/19th April, please sign the list on the desk by the Mildred Avenue door.

THIS WEEK

Mon	1	Apr	Toddlers' Group	10.00 – 11.30am
			Lent Group (Choir Vestry)	2.30pm
			(Stations of the Cross – Third Order of St Francis	8.00pm–10.00pm)
Tue	2	Apr	Estates Committee	10.00am
			Service at River Court	2.30pm
Wed	3	Apr	Food Bank and Coffee in Church	10.00am – 12 noon
			Intercessory Prayer Group	2.30pm
Thur	4	Apr	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sun	7	Apr	<u>LENT 5 / PASSION SUNDAY</u>	
			Holy Communion	8.00am
			SUNG EUCHARIST (Pres and Preacher: Fr George)	9.30am
			Holy Baptism	2.00pm
			Evening Prayer	6.00pm

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER: It gives us great pleasure to announce that Simon Fowle has taken over this responsibility. Thank you, Simon.

Fr. Geoff, Elizabeth and Gillian.

P.C.C.: There are several vacancies that need to be filled. We shall be coming to seek your help! *Elizabeth and Gillian.*

CONCERT: We are thinking about inviting the Gwalia Choir, a Welsh Male Voice choir, to come and perform for us in December. We would like to make this a fundraising event. So first of all, we would like to know if you would support this concert, and, if you would be able to bring friends and family to help with the sale of tickets. Please talk to Fr Geoff, Elizabeth, Iola and Valerie B with your ideas.

LENT COLLECTING BOXES FOR CHURCH ARMY: Collecting boxes for Church members to use during Lent are at the back of the church. The boxes will be collected on Easter Day (21st April).

LENT GROUPS are taking place on Mondays 11th, 18th, 25th March, 1st and 8th April, at 2.30 pm in the Choir Vestry. The subject is Prayer, the Bible and Daily Life.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Sunday 14 April 9.30am: Palm Sunday - Parish Eucharist
with dramatised Gospel reading and distribution of palm crosses

Tuesday 16 April: Agape

Maundy Thursday 18 April at 11am: Children's Stations of the Cross

Good Friday 19 April from 12 noon: The Last Three Hours

Sunday, 21 April: Easter Day

Wednesday 24 April – Annual Meetings

7.00pm Holy Communion

7.45pm Annual Vestry Meeting

8.00pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting